



Basingstoke
and Deane

Basingstoke
#BusinessBuiltIn

Rural England Prosperity Fund

BADPTC

29 September 2022



Overview

- Part of the Government's Levelling Up Agenda focused on reducing inequalities and tackling deprivation
- Complements the UK Shared Prosperity Fund with a specific focus on addressing challenges faced by rural areas
- Rural areas classified as towns and villages with less than 10,000 inhabitants and wider countryside, and market or hub towns with populations of up to 30,000 that serve surrounding rural areas
- Capital funding only over two years in 2023/24 and 2024/25
- BDBC to receive an allocation of £439,000 with 25% in 2023/24 and 75% in 2024/25



Investment priorities

- **Community and Place:**
 - Support new and improved community infrastructure providing essential services and assets to local people
- **Supporting Local Businesses:**
 - Support new and existing rural businesses to develop new products and facilities that will benefit the wider economy



UK Shared Prosperity Fund

- BDBC allocated £1M over 2022/23 to 2024/25 period
- Council will use funds to develop grant schemes for:
 - community-led interventions aimed at responding to community needs
 - business grants to support apprenticeships and training
 - services aimed at supporting people facing barriers to employment
- Grants open to all parts of the borough
- Funding is mostly revenue



Proposed approach

- REPF will be used to set up grant schemes to support rural communities and businesses
- Limited funding so need to prioritise
- Engagement with partners to test ideas/proposals



Community and Place

- Focus on community infrastructure to improve resident and visitor experience
- Funding to support:
 - Improvements to village and town centres
 - Enhancements to green spaces to support biodiversity and sustainability
 - Improvements to public realm and community facilities



Supporting Local Businesses

- Two areas of focus:
 - Low carbon and sustainability
 - Tourism and visitor economy
- Funding to support businesses with:
 - Reducing carbon emissions and impact on environment
 - Improvements and diversification of visitor infrastructure



Next steps

- Further engagement with local partners
- Development of investment plan to be submitted to Government by 30 November 2022
- Approval of plans by Government expected in January 2023
- Schemes launched from April 2023



Basingstoke
and Deane

Basingstoke
#BusinessBuiltIn

**Any
questions?**